

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An office chair mounted on a movable base having an armrest that can be raised and lowered comprising:
 - (a) said office chair having a back;
 - (b) a bracket mounted on the back of said office chair at least about six inches above the plane of the top of the seat of said office chair, said bracket having a cavity;
 - (c) an armrest support having a first portion rotatably mounted within said bracket cavity and a second portion extending from said bracket to a position selected from the group consisting of the right and the left of a user wherein said user is positioned on the seat of said office chair and is facing away from the back of the chair;
 - (d) an armrest body mounted on the end of said armrest support distal to said bracket;
 - (e) a rotation lock which, when engaged, prevents said armrest support from rotating within said bracket, said rotation lock mounted in said bracket; and
 - (f) a rotation lock release member having a switch positioned on said armrest support near said armrest body.
2. (currently amended) A method of adjusting the vertical position of a first armrest consisting of:
 - (a) raising the distal end of the armrest to an altitude greater than the altitude of the medial end of said armrest, wherein the medial end of said armrest is mounted to a linkage arm;
 - (b) repositioning said armrest upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
 - (c) releasing said distal end in a manner effective to return said distal end to an altitude substantially the same as said medial end of said armrest.
3. (currently amended) A method of adjusting the vertical position of an armrest comprising the steps of:
 - (a) positioning said armrest upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
 - (b) releasing said armrest in a manner effective to engage a locking mechanism that holds said armrest in the desired vertical position-it was placed.
4. (previously presented) A chair with an adjustable arm comprising:
 - (a) a support for a back of said chair connected to a base of said chair;
 - (b) a bracket mounted on said back support;
 - (c) a first link pivotally mounted to said bracket mounted on said back support;
 - (d) a second link pivotally mounted to said bracket mounted on said back support;

- (e) a second bracket pivotally mounted to the ends of said first and said second links at the end of each link distal to the bracket mounted on said back support; and
- (f) an armrest body mounted to said second bracket.

5. (previously presented) The chair with an adjustable arm of claim 4 further comprising a locking mechanism at the interface between (a) one of said links mounted to the bracket mounted on said back support and (b) said second bracket.

6. (previously presented) The chair with an adjustable arm of claim 4 further comprising

- (a) a third bracket mounted on said back support;
- (b) a third link pivotally mounted to said third bracket;
- (c) a fourth link pivotally mounted to said third bracket;
- (d) a fourth bracket pivotally mounted to the ends of said third and said fourth links at the end of each link distal to the third bracket; and
- (e) a second armrest body mounted to said fourth bracket.

7. (previously presented) The chair with an adjustable arm of claim 4 further comprising a slider-crank joint at the interface between one link and one bracket.

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented) An office chair with a movable armrest comprising:

- (a) a bracket fixedly mounted to a chair back at a point that is at least about 6 inches above a rear portion of a seat of said chair and positioned behind a user's back;
- (b) an armrest support arm rotatably attached to a pivot axis attached to said bracket for raising and lowering a first armrest body mounted on an end of said armrest support arm distal to said bracket;
- (c) said armrest support arm comprising two substantially parallel linkage arms mounted between said bracket and said first armrest body; and
- (d) a mechanism for securing said armrest at a fixed height.

11. (previously presented) The chair with an adjustable arm of claim 4 further comprising said bracket mounted on said back support being at least about 6 inches above a rear portion of the seat of said chair.

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A method of adjusting the vertical position of an armrest comprising, in a chair in which the distal end of the armrest is the end of the armrest closest to the user's fingertips when the user sits in the chair in a conventional manner, the steps of:

- (a) raising the distal end of the armrest to an altitude greater than the altitude of the medial end of said armrest;
- (b) repositioning said armrest upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
- (c) releasing said distal end in a manner effective to return said distal end to an altitude substantially the same as said medial end of said armrest;

wherein the raising, repositioning and releasing movement of said armrest is within an arc of less than 45 degrees.

14. (previously presented) An office chair with an adjustable arm comprising:

- (a) a pedestal mounted to a base of said chair said pedestal having a plurality of arms near the end of said pedestal furthest from said base;
- (b) a support for a back of said chair connected to said chair base;
- (c) a bracket mounted on said back support;
- (d) a first link pivotally mounted to said bracket mounted on said back support;
- (e) a second link pivotally mounted to said bracket mounted on said back support;
- (f) a second bracket pivotally mounted to the ends of said first and said second links at the end of each link distal to the bracket mounted on said back support; and
- (g) an armrest body mounted to said second bracket.

15. (previously presented) An office chair according to claim 14 in which said brackets and links maintain said armrest body in an orientation substantially parallel to the seat of said chair.

16. (currently amended) A method of adjusting the vertical position of an armrest comprising the steps of:

- (a) raising the end of a first the armrest body closest to a user's fingertips to an altitude greater than the altitude of the portion of said armrest closest to said user's elbow;
- (b) repositioning said armrest upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
- (c) releasing said the end of the armrest closest to a user's fingertips distal end in a manner effective to return the armrest to a substantially horizontal level at the desired vertical position said distal end to an altitude substantially the same as said medial end of said armrest.

17. (currently amended) An office chair mounted on a movable base having an armrest that can be raised and lowered comprising:

- (a) said office chair having a back support and a seat mounted on a movable base;

- (b) a hollow bracket normally fixedly mounted on the back support of said office chair at least about six inches above the plane of the top of the seat of said office chair, said bracket having a cavity;
- (c) a first armrest support, comprising two linkage arms, each having a first portion rotatably mounted within said bracket cavity and each having a second portion extending outward from said bracket to a position selected from the group consisting of the right and the left of a user wherein said user is positioned on the seat of said office chair and is facing away from the back of said chair;
- (d) an armrest body mounted on the end of said second portion of the first armrest support distal to said bracket; and;
- (e) a rotation lock which, when engaged, prevents said first armrest support from rotating within said bracket, said rotation lock mounted in said bracket.

18. (currently amended) A method of adjusting the vertical position of an armrest of a chair comprising the steps of:

- (a) raising the distal end of the armrest to an altitude greater than the altitude of the medial end of said armrest, wherein said armrest is connected to a bracket mounted on the back of said chair by two parallel linkage arms;
- (b) repositioning said armrest upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
- (c) releasing said distal end of the armrest in a manner effective to return said distal end of the armrest to an level altitude substantially the same as said medial end of said armrest.

19. (currently amended) A method of adjusting the vertical position of an armrest of a chair comprising the steps of:

- (a) pivoting an armrest body mounted on the distal end of an armrest linkage about a pivot at the interface of said armrest body and said armrest linkage;
- (b) repositioning said armrest body upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
- (c) releasing said distal end in a manner effective to returning said armrest body distal end to an altitude substantially horizontal level at the desired vertical position position the same as said medial end of said armrest.

20. (new) In a chair comprising a back support, an adjustable armrest mechanism mounted to the back support, the adjustable armrest mechanism comprising:

- (a) an armrest;
- (b) at least two substantially parallel bars, each parallel bar comprising a first end and a second end, the first end pivotably mounted to the armrest, and at least one second end movably engaged with the back support;

- (c) a positioning means mounted to the back support, wherein the positioning means cooperates with the second end and the back support to movably engage the second end with the back support.

21. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 20 wherein the armrest comprises a terminal end, wherein the positioning means disengages the second end and the back support when the terminal end of the armrest is raised, which allows the armrest to move upward or downward along an arc of about 45 degrees, and wherein the positioning means reengages the second end and the back support after the armrest is adjusted to a new position.

22. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 20 wherein the positioning means comprises a first ratchet surface mounted to an interior wall of the back support and a locking bar mounted to the second end, wherein the locking bar comprises a second ratchet surface complementary to the first ratchet surface.

23. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 22 wherein the locking bar further comprises a spring engaged with a piston, the piston engaged with the interior wall of the back support to bias the positioning means toward engagement of the second end and the back support.

24. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 20 wherein at least two second ends are movably engaged with the back support.

25. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 24 wherein the positioning means comprises at least two first ratchet surfaces mounted on opposite sides of an interior of the back support, and at least two locking bars mounted to the second ends, wherein the at least two locking bars comprise at least two second ratchet surfaces complementary to the first ratchet surfaces.

26. (new) In a chair comprising a back support, an adjustable armrest mechanism mounted to the back support, the adjustable armrest mechanism comprising:

- (a) two armrests;
- (b) at least four substantially parallel bars, each parallel bar comprising a first end and a second end, the first end pivotably mounted to the armrest, and at least one second end movably engaged with the back support;
- (c) a positioning means mounted to the back support, wherein the positioning means cooperates with the second end and the back support to movably engage the second end with the back support.

27. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 25 wherein at least two second ends are movably engaged with the back support.

28. (new) The adjustable armrest mechanism of claim 26 wherein at least four second ends are movably engaged with the back support.

29. (new) A method of adjusting the height of at least one armrest of a chair comprising the steps of:
(a) raising a distal end of the armrest to pivot the armrest upward from a substantially horizontal level;
(b) repositioning said armrest upward or downward to a desired vertical position; and
(c) releasing the distal end in a manner effective to return the armrest to the substantially horizontal level at the desired vertical position.

30. (new) The method of claim 29 wherein the chair comprises a first armrest and a second armrest, and the repositioning of the first armrest simultaneously repositions the second armrest.

31. (new) In a chair, a pivotable armrest comprising:
(a) at least two parallel bars mounted to the chair, each of the parallel bars mounted to the chair at a first end and to the armrest at a second end;
(b) a clevis base mounted between the second ends of the parallel bars with a pin, such that the armrest pivots in a horizontal plane around the pin; and
(c) an index arm mounted on the pin, wherein the index arm is restricted within a range of movement as the armrest pivots in the horizontal plane.

32. (new) The pivotable armrest of claim 31 further comprising a means for locking and unlocking the armrest against pivoting.

33. (new) The pivotable armrest of claim 32 wherein the means for locking and unlocking the armrest against pivoting comprises a sliding control within the reach of a user of the chair, and wherein the sliding control moves between a locked and unlocked position, the unlocked position allowing the index arm to move freely within the range of movement, and the locked position securing the index arm against movement.